Canada Post Honors RedBlacks Football Team

On June 19, with less than a month until the new Canadian Football League season, Canada Post issued two commemorative stamps for the much-anticipated return of Ottawa to the CFL. The stamps add to the CFL commemorative issues initiated in 2012.

Canadian-born quarterback and legendary Ottawa Rough Rider Russ Jackson is featured on one stamp against the background of Ottawa's new stadium. Jackson spent his entire 12-year professional football career with the former Ottawa team, the Rough Riders, and quarterbacked them to three Grey Cup victories—the CFL's championship game. The second stamp features the REDBLACKS logo—a saw blade-notched "R" in front of a circular saw that represents Ottawa's early lumber heritage.

"With over 100 years of history, the CFL has a storied past and reflects the culture, enthusiasm and spirit of Canadians," said Lisa Raitt, Minister of Transport and responsible for Canada Post. "These stamps build a bridge between Ottawa's football history and future."

"We are proud to play a part in Ottawa's return to the CFL and complete the special issues by representing all nine cities and teams," said Deepak Chopra, President and CEO, Canada Post. "The determination and dedication of the Ottawa Sports and Entertainment Group and their fans bodes well for them to create their own legacy."

"The return of CFL football to our nation's capital is an historic moment for our league," said CFL Commissioner Mark Cohon. "Capturing its significance through commemorative stamps is an honor and another indication that the dream of returning CFL football to Ottawa is a reality." Ottawa was home to the Rough Riders from 1876 until 1996, when the team ceased operations. A short-lived Ottawa Renegades team existed from 2001 to 2006.

The non-denominated domestic rate Permanent stamps were designed by Bensimon Byrne, the advertising agency for the CFL. The stamp featuring Russ Jackson and TD Place stadium, printed by Canadian Bank Note Company Limited, was issued in booklets of 10 and the stamp featuring the new team logo, printed by Lowe-Martin Group, was issued in coils of 50.

For information on other Canada new issues and a link to the Canada Post website, please go to http://www.stampnewsnow.com/canadaPostnewissues.html.